

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DUSSEL 00648 150250Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20  
TRSE-00 /077 W  
-----025898 152054Z /73

R 141035Z APR 78  
FM AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3481  
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMCONSUL BREMEN  
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT  
AMCONSUL HAMBURG  
AMCONSUL MUNICH  
AMCONSUL STUTTGART  
USAREUR HEIDELBERG  
USAFE RAMSTEIN  
USCINCEUR STUTTGART

UNCLAS DUSSELDORF 648

MIL ADDEES FOR POLADS

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: PINT GW  
SUBJ: FDP URGES DECISION ON KUEHN SUCCESSION

REF: A. DUSSELDORF 331 B. DUSSELDORF 157

1. ON APRIL 11, 1978, DR. HORST-LUDWIG RIEMER, NORTH RHINE-  
WESTPHALIAN (NRW) MINISTER OF ECONOMICS AND CHAIRMAN OF  
THE NRW/FDP, SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF HIS PARTY AND WITH AN  
EYE ON THE FORTHCOMING NRW/FDP CONVENTION, URGED THE SPD  
TO REACH A SPEEDY DECISION CONCERNING THE TENURE OF  
HEINZ KUEHN AS MINISTER PRESIDENT OF NRW (SEE ALSO REFTEL ?).  
IN PARTICULAR THE FDP WANTS TO KNOW WHETHER KUEHN WILL  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 DUSSEL 00648 150250Z

RESIGN PREMATURELY OR REMAIN IN OFFICE UNTIL 1980  
AND WHO IS TO SUCCEED HIM. RIEMER DECLARED THAT THE  
UNCERTAINTY IN THIS MATTER IS NOT CONDUCTIVE TO THE  
COALITION CLIMATE AND THAT HE EXPECTS THE SPD TO  
NOMINATE ITS CANDIDATE BEFORE THE END OF 1978 AND TO  
PUT ITS NOMINEE UP FOR ELECTION IN THE LANDTAG.

2. RIEMER REITERATED THE RESOLVE OF HIS PARTY TO UPHOLD THE COALITION AND PLEDGED SUPPORT FOR THE ELECTION OF ONE OF THE TWO CANDIDATES PUT UP BY THE PARTY SO FAR, NAMELY JOHANNES RAU, NRW MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND RESEARCH AND NRW/SPD CHAIRMAN OR DR. DIETHER POSSER, NRW MINISTER OF FINANCE. HE INDICATED THAT THE FDP MAY NOT GIVE ITS SUPPORT TO OUTSIDE NOMINEES SUCH AS SPD BUNDESTAG DEPUTY WALTER ARENDT, EX-FEDERAL MINISTER OF LABOR, AND HANS JUERGEN WISCHNEWSKI, STATE MINISTER IN THE OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR.

3. ACCORDING TO RIEMER, KUEHN'S SUCCESSION SHOULD BE DECIDED EARLY ENOUGH TO REMOVE THE DECISION FROM THE NRW COMMUNIAL ELECTIONS IN THE FALL OF 1979 AND THE NRW LANDTAG ELECTIONS IN SPRING OF 1980. ALTHOUGH LOYAL TO THE COALITION, RIEMER EMPHASIZED, THE FDP DOES NOT WANT TO BE PREJUDICED BY THE SPD INTO A COALITION COMMITMENT FOR THE NEXT LEGISLATURE PERIOD BY ACCEPTING A NEW SPD MINISTER PRESIDENT JUST PRIOR TO THE ELECTIONS.

4. ACCORDING TO RELIABLE SOURCES RIEMER HAS HAD ANOTHER TALK WITH OPPOSITION LEADER HEINRICH KOEPLER ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CDU AND FDP WHICH KOEPLER HAS DESCRIBED AS A DEFINITE IMPROVEMENT  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 DUSSEL 00648 150250Z

OF THE POLITICAL CLIMATE (SEE REFTTEL A).DUX

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PARTY STRENGTH, COALITION GOVERNMENT, PARTY LEADERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978DUSSEL00648  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780163-0081  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** DUSSELDORF  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780456/aaaabuyt.tel  
**Line Count:** 95  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** d9a401b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 DUSSELDORF 331  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 mar 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2965075  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FDP URGES DECISION ON KUEHN SUCCESSION  
**TAGS:** PINT, GE, (KUEHN, HEINZ)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/d9a401b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014